The broadcast flag protocol being considered for digital television signals is an unwarranted erosion of personal freedom. The entertainment industry must find ways of combatting unlawful duplication of copyrighted information that do not involve the consumer relinquishing control of home entertainment devices to the content providers. This solution unfairly punishes law-abiding citizens, by infringing their freedom to operate their own entertainment devices in a legal fashion. The dangers of copyright violation are not so great that all citizens must give up their freedom to prevent it.